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## CURRENT SUPPORT BRIEF

SOVIET OIL EXPORTS VIA BALTIC PORTS

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND REPORTS

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOVIET OIL EXPORTS VIA BALTIC PORTS

Soviet petroleum exports from the Baltic Sea ports of Klaipeda and Ventspils have risen rapidly since 1959. A survey of available shipping data indicates that exports to non-bloc countries from these ports increased from a bare trickle in 1959 to approximately 2.1 million tons of crude oil and products in 1961. This amounted to about eight percent of total net Soviet exports of crude oil and petroleum products from the USSR to all non-bloc countries and about 40 percent of Soviet exports to western states (less Finland) convenient for Baltic tanker deliveries. One recent Soviet statement discloses intentions to export 4 million tons of petroleum through Soviet Baltic ports in 1962. Although the pipeline from Kuybyshev, via Unecha, which is to serve these ports is not expected to be completed until 1964, important storage and loading facilities evidently already have been constructed in anticipation of the increased trade. Completion of the pipeline systems from the Urals-Volga to Klaipeda, Ventspils, and Leningrad undoubtedly will increase the percentage share of Soviet oil shipments from the Baltic to the Free World, particularly shipments to northern European markets. As much as 20 million tons of petroleum might be available for export from Soviet Baltic ports in 1965, or approximately 40 percent of all Soviet oil available for export to non-bloc countries.

Shipments from Klaipeda began in November 1959, but sizable quantities were not achieved until 1960. Shipments from Ventspils began in the latter part of October 1961, and for the remainder of 1961, voyages from Ventspils were made exclusively to East and West Germany and to Cuba. Available evidence indicates that only fuel oil (mazut) was shipped from Klaipeda and that crude oil was exported from Ventspils in 1961.

Most of the oil shipped from the Soviet ports in the Baltic is destined for Sweden and Denmark, but significant portions of the total Soviet shipments went to Norway, Belgium, Iceland and the United Kingdom. Oil imported from the USSR represents virtually the entire oil supply of Iceland and a significant part of the supply of Sweden. However, such oil imports represent only a small part of the oil supply of Denmark, Belgium-Luxembourg, West Germany and Norway. The quantities of oil imported from the USSR by Sweden and West Germany are much greater than the quantities imported by the other countries mentioned.

Baltic shipments were made primarily in ocean-going tankers of 11,500-ton capacity (Kazbek class) and in coastal tankers of 4,100-ton capacity. Four tankers of 4,100-ton capacity operated full time in the Baltic oil traffic in 1961. With the exception of one shipment by a smaller tanker, shipments were made to Denmark exclusively by these tankers. They also carried more than half of the Swedish shipments. One tanker of 1,700-ton capacity made several voyages to Sweden in the first three months, but no tankers of this size were observed in operations out of Klaipeda and Ventspils during the remainder of 1961. Approximately five days were required for round-trip voyages to Danish and Swedish ports.

Two tankers of 11,500-ton capacity operated full time in the Baltic and 12 others, normally operating from Black Sea ports, made one or more trips from the Baltic. These tankers made voyages to Sweden, Norway, Belgium, England, Iceland and Cuba. Round-trip voyages to Cuba took approximately 45 days, voyages to Iceland - 16 days, and voyages to the Western European nations - between six and seven days.

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Practically all oil exported from the Baltic in 1961 was carried in Soviet bottoms. One hundred voyages were made by tankers of the Kazbek class carrying approximately 1 million tons of petroleum, 250 voyages by tankers of the 4,100-ton class carrying approximately 1 million tons of petroleum, and 14 trips by the tanker of the 1,700-ton class carrying approximately 25,000 tons of petroleum. Only one voyage involved a non-Soviet vessel. A Bulgarian vessel of 11,500-ton capacity, the Anton Ivanov which normally operates out of the Black Sea, made a voyage from Ventspils to Cuba in December.

All of the crude oil and products exported from the USSR to Finland in 1961--approximately 2.1 million tons--were shipped from Black Sea ports. Upon completion of the pipeline systems to the Baltic ports, the USSR probably will use these ports to supply Finland as well as the other northern European countries.

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Imports of Soviet Petroleum by Non-Bloc Countries Receiving Shipments from Baltic Ports  
(Thousands of Metric Tons)

	1959 a/ Total Imports from USSR (As % of Imports from All Sources)	1960 Total Imports from USSR (As % of Imports from All Sources)	Imports from Baltic Ports (As % of Total Imports from USSR)	1961 Total Imports from USSR (As % of Imports from All Sources)b/	Imports from Baltic Ports (As % of Total Imports from USSR)
<u>Sweden</u>					
Crude Oil	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
Petroleum Products	1,451 (17.1)	1,968 (18.5)	1,011 (51.4)	2,329 (23.4)	1,524 (65.4)
Total Petroleum	1,451 (13.3)	1,968 (14.8)	1,011 (51.4)	2,329 (19.5)	1,524 (65.4)
<u>Norway</u>					
Crude Oil	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
Petroleum Products	263 (8.2)	249 (6.9)	97 (39.0)	179 (6.1)	81 (45.3)
Total Petroleum	263 (7.9)	249 (6.5)	97 (39.0)	222 (4.9)	81 (36.5)
<u>Denmark</u>					
Crude Oil	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
Petroleum Products	97 (2.2)	153 (3.0)	153 (100.0)	203 (N.A.)	203 (100.0)
Total Petroleum	97 (2.2)	153 (3.0)	153 (100.0)	203 (N.A.)	203 (100.0)
<u>Belgium-Luxembourg</u>					
Crude Oil	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	84 (1.1)	0 (0)
Petroleum Products	194 (6.8)	203 (6.3)	Neg. (N.A.)	210 (6.7)	62 (29.5)
Total Petroleum	194 (2.0)	203 (2.0)	Neg. (N.A.)	294 (2.7)	62 (21.1)
<u>West Germany</u>					
Crude Oil	261 (1.5)	1,241 (5.4)	N.A. (N.A.)	1,557 (N.A.)	69 (4.4)
Petroleum Products	825 (14.9)	766 (11.1)	N.A. (N.A.)	284 (N.A.)	12 (4.2)
Total Petroleum	1,086 (4.8)	2,007 (6.7)	N.A. (N.A.)	1,841 (4.8)	81 (4.4)
<u>United Kingdom</u>					
Crude Oil	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
Petroleum Products	102 (N.A.)	238 (N.A.)	50 (21.0)	120 (N.A.)	58 (48.3)
Total Petroleum	102 (N.A.)	238 (N.A.)	50 (21.0)	120 (N.A.)	58 (48.3)
<u>Iceland</u>					
Crude Oil	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
Petroleum Products	365 (91.7)	339 (88.5)	Neg. (N.A.)	305 (N.A.)	69 (22.6)
Total Petroleum	365 (91.7)	339 (88.5)	Neg. (N.A.)	320 (N.A.)	69 (21.6)

- a. 1959 shipments from Klaipeda were negligible and their distribution among countries is not known.  
b. Total imports of petroleum in 1961 were estimated for individual countries on the basis of partial data, as follows: Sweden and West Germany - Data for the first 9 months. Norway and Belgium-Luxembourg - Data for the first 8 months.

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Analyst:

Coord:

Sources:

Quantitative data shown in this report are principally from Lloyd's Shipping Index, Voyage Supplement, (published weekly), Vneshnyaya trgovlya SSSR 1959 & 1960, UN Commodity Trade Statistics 1959 & 1960, and 1961 trade statistics for individual countries.

The "recent Soviet statement" mentioned on the first page was obtained from Morskoi flot, January 1962. This source also has reported that "preliminary data" indicate a total of 1.8 million tons of oil was shipped from Soviet Baltic ports in 1961. The difference between these "preliminary data" and the estimates contained in this report may be explained in part by the fact that the ORR estimates assume full loading of all vessels or the fact that the shipping information used by the Soviet author may have been less complete than that examined by ORR.

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